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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/809,235	03/15/2001	Bruce Alan Meyer	528-009149-US	5386

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EXAMINER

TRAN, ANH Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2819

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/809,235

Applicant(s)

MEYER ET AL.

Examiner

Anh Q. Tran

Art Unit

2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5,7-9,11-23,25-27 and 29-35 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5,7-9,11-23,25-27 and 29-35 is/are rejected.

- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sugai (5,087,833).

3. Regarding claim 3, Sugai shows a device (Fig. 6, 7) for changing a termination voltage of a differential data bus, the differential data bus comprising a first data bus (12a) and a second data bus (12b), the device comprising:

A first adjustable termination path (14a) connectable to the first data bus;

A second adjustable termination path (14b) connectable to the second data bus;

and

A switch (25) connectable in parallel with the first adjustable termination path and the second adjustable termination path;

Wherein the first adjustable termination path is switchable between –2 volts (V_{tt} - V_d , col. 4, lines 22-23) or a short that connects the first data bus and the second data bus.

Regarding claim 2, Sugai shows the differential data bus comprises a differential twisted pair line (col. 6, line 45).

The limitation of claim 4 is rejected as above claim 3.

The apparatus describe above are applicable to the limitations of method claims 8-9, 26-27.

The limitations of claims 12-15, 17, 30-33, and 35 are rejected as above claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5, 9, 11, 16, 18,19-23, 25, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugai (5,087,833).

Sugai disclose the claimed invention except for a field effect transistor switch. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement switch as a field effect transistor, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material (FET, BJT, etc.) on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice.

Regarding claim 18, Sugai disclose the claimed invention except for a first and second bus connectable to the PLD. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the inventions was made to connect the first and second bus connectable to the PLD since it was known in the art that a PLD comprises transmit and receive termination.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Q. Tran whose telephone number is 703-306-4507. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (7:00-5:30) Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Tokar can be reached on 703-305-3493. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7724 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Anh Tran
March 27, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Anh Tran', written in a cursive style.